

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

ROOT, INC.,
80 E Rich St., Suite 500,
Columbus, OH 43215,

CARET HOLDINGS, INC.
80 E Rich St., Suite 500,
Columbus, OH 43215,

ROOT INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC
80 E Rich St., Suite 500,
Columbus, OH 43215,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BRINSON CALEB “BC” SILVER,
6311 Summertime Ln.
Culver City, CA 90230-4579,

WILLIAM CAMPBELL,
1250 Wynn Rd.
Pasadena, CA 91107-1547,

COLLATERAL DAMAGE, LLC,
Registered Agent: LEGALZOOM.COM,
Inc.
101 N Brand Blvd., 11th Floor
Glendale, CA 91203,

ECLIPSE HOME DESIGN, LLC,
Registered Agent: United States
Corporation Agents, Inc.
651 N. Broad St., Suite 201
Middletown, DE 19709,

QUANTASY & ASSOCIATES, LLC,
Registered Agent: ERESIDENT AGENT,
Inc.
7801 Folsom Blvd., Suite 202
Sacramento, CA 95826,

Case No. _____

Judge _____

JURY DEMAND ENDORSED HEREON

PAIGE MCDANIEL,
5576 Alexanders Lake Rd.
Stockbridge, GA 30281,

LAUREN LANSKIE,
12014 Kling St., Apartment 3
Valley Village, CA 91607-3924,

Defendants.

:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:

VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

Plaintiffs Root, Inc., Caret Holdings, Inc. (“Caret Holdings”), and Root Insurance Agency, LLC (“RIA”) (together, “Plaintiffs” or “Root”), by and through their undersigned counsel, and for their Complaint against Defendants Brinson Caleb “BC” Silver (“Silver”), William Campbell (“Campbell”), Collateral Damage, LLC (“Collateral Damage”), Eclipse Home Design LLC (“Eclipse”), Quantasy & Associates, LLC (“Quantasy”), Paige McDaniel (“McDaniel”), and Lauren Lanskie (“Lanskie”) (collectively, “Defendants”), aver and allege as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. Root is a publicly-traded technology company based in downtown Columbus, Ohio, that offers a novel, app-based approach to property and casualty insurance.
2. Silver was Root’s Chief Marketing Officer between November 2021 and November 2022. Throughout 2022, Silver, Campbell and several other co-conspirators engaged in a brazen and sophisticated scheme to defraud Root of at least \$9.4 million.
3. Root hired Silver believing he was an experienced leader and would be skilled at getting maximum value for Root’s modest marketing budget for the year 2022. Silver, however, had other plans. Within days of starting his job at Root, Silver contacted Campbell to engage Campbell’s company, Quantasy. Through Silver, Root contracted with Quantasy to perform marketing services for Root, and Root paid Quantasy more than \$13 million. But, unbeknownst

to Root management, Silver was directing Campbell and Quantasy to transfer over \$9.4 million of those payments to another company called Collateral Damage, which was owned and controlled by Silver. Silver never disclosed Collateral Damage's existence to Root management, much less the glaring conflict of interest.

4. Silver, Campbell, and the other co-conspirators executed this scheme to defraud Root and enrich themselves completely hidden from and unbeknownst to Root management, and without any authority from Root. Indeed, Root did not discover the fraud until after Silver had left the employment of Root.

5. Once the funds had been transferred to Silver via Collateral Damage, upon information and belief, Silver used the funds to purchase luxury real estate in Florida and California for and in the name of another of his companies, Eclipse.

6. By this Complaint, Plaintiffs seek damages against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, and the other co-conspirators for their brazen acts of theft from Root.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

7. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because this action arises, in part, under the Federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("Federal RICO").

8. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' related state and common law claims pursuant to the doctrine of supplemental jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) because they are all part of the same case or controversy.

9. This Court also has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of costs and interest, and there is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiffs and the Defendants.

10. Venue in this Court is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District.

PARTIES

11. Plaintiff Root, Inc. is an insurance holding company incorporated under the laws of Delaware with a principal place of business in Columbus, Ohio. Root, Inc. is the parent company of Caret Holdings, which is the parent company of RIA.

12. Plaintiff Caret Holdings, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Columbus, Ohio.

13. Plaintiff Root Insurance Agency, LLC is an Ohio limited liability company with its principal place of business in Columbus, Ohio. Caret Holdings is the sole member of RIA.

14. Defendant Brinson Caleb (“BC”) Silver (formerly Brinson Bernard McDaniel) is an individual that, upon information and belief, resides in both California and Florida and is a citizen of California and Florida. Silver is Root’s former Chief Marketing Officer (“CMO”).

15. Defendant Paige Lynette McDaniel is an individual that, upon information and belief, resides in the state of Georgia and is a citizen of Georgia. Upon information and belief, McDaniel is Silver’s sister and a member of Collateral Damage.

16. Upon information and belief, Defendant Collateral Damage, LLC is a limited liability company formed under the laws of California and/or Georgia.

17. Upon information and belief, Defendant Quantasy & Associates, LLC is a limited liability company formed under the laws of Delaware with headquarters in California. Quantasy is an advertising agency in the Los Angeles area that began operating in 2012.

18. Defendant William Campbell was during all relevant times, the Chief Executive

Officer (“CEO”) of Quantasy. Upon information and belief, Campbell is an individual who resides in California and is a citizen of California.

19. Defendant Lauren Lanskie is an individual that, upon information and belief, resides in Valley Village, California and is a citizen of California.

20. Defendant Eclipse Home Design LLC is a limited liability company formed under the laws of Delaware with an address of 1111 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach, Florida. Upon information and belief, Silver is the sole member of Eclipse.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

A. Root Hires Silver as Chief Marketing Officer.

21. In the summer of 2021, Root retained an executive search firm to recruit a CMO.

22. By the fall of 2021, the executive search firm identified Silver and presented Silver to Root as a possible candidate for the position. Based on the materials provided by the search firm, Root hired Silver.

23. On November 8, 2021, Silver and Caret Holdings executed an executive employment agreement (“Employment Agreement”).

24. In addition to providing Silver’s salary, benefits, and job responsibilities, the Employment Agreement required Silver to “perform [his] duties, responsibilities and functions to the Company [...] in a diligent, trustworthy, professional, ethical and efficient manner and [] comply with the policies and procedures of the Company[.]”

25. Upon commencing his employment at Root, Silver signed several onboarding documents on November 16, 2021, including a Conflicts of Interest Policy. Root’s Conflicts of Interest Policy provided that: “Root expects all employees to conduct themselves and company business in a manner that reflects the highest standards of ethical conduct and in accordance with

all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. This includes avoiding real and potential conflicts of interest.”

26. Silver was employed as Root’s CMO between approximately November 8, 2021 and November 9, 2022, at which point he was exited as part of a company-wide reduction in force (“RIF”).

B. Silver Hires Quantasy to Funnel Root’s Payments into His Own Company, Collateral Damage.

27. Upon information and belief, Silver and Campbell were previous acquaintances who had worked together prior to Silver joining Root. On or about November 22, 2021—within two weeks of signing his Employment Agreement, conflict-of-interest documents, and starting his employment at Root—Silver sent Campbell a series of text messages. In these initial text message exchanges, Silver and Campbell discussed Root’s retaining Quantasy as a marketing vendor.

28. On December 3, 2021, Campbell sent Silver a text message attaching a draft Scope of Work agreement (“SOW”). On December 9, 2021, Campbell then sent Silver a text message containing a revised version of the SOW. On January 30, 2022, Silver continued to revise the SOW via text message, providing additional information for Campbell to include in the SOW.

29. On February 3, 2022, at Silver’s direction, Root signed the SOW with Quantasy (“SOW #1”) with an effective date of February 1, 2022. Pursuant to SOW #1, Root was to pay Quantasy a fee of approximately \$1,184,445 for “Client Partnerships”; “Brand Strategy”; and “Creative Services / Development Support.” SOW #1 provided that Root would pay approximately 40% of the outstanding amount, or \$473,778.00, “upon commencement”; 35%, or \$414,555.75, by February 18, 2022; and 25%, or \$296,111.25, by March 1, 2022. On February 3, 2022, Quantasy invoiced Root for \$473,778 (Invoice No. 2277).

30. After facilitating the relationship with Quantasy, Silver and Campbell set up a

scheme by which Quantasy would transfer funds to Silver's company, Collateral Damage. On February 7, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a message, using the WhatsApp messaging application, containing an account number and routing numbers for Collateral Damage's Bank of America bank account. Silver included in his message that Collateral Damage had an address of "45 South Arroyo Pkwy Pasadena, Ca 91105." No Root employee other than Silver was involved in this communication. As reflected below, when discussing Collateral Damage, Silver and Campbell almost exclusively used WhatsApp in an attempt to avoid detection.

31. On February 9, 2022, at Silver's direction, Root paid Invoice No. 2277, via wire to Quantasy, in the amount of \$473,778. The same day, Silver sent Campbell a text message saying, "Payment went out. Excited to have you all on the team."

32. On February 11, 2022, Silver sent Campbell the first invoice for Collateral Damage via a WhatsApp message. The invoice, numbered 12012021 and dated January 29, 2020, was for \$153,778 and identified Collateral Damage's purported services as "2020 Promotion Plan" and "Campaign Design Support." The invoice contained the same routing number and accounting number for Collateral Damage that Silver had sent Campbell on February 7, 2022.

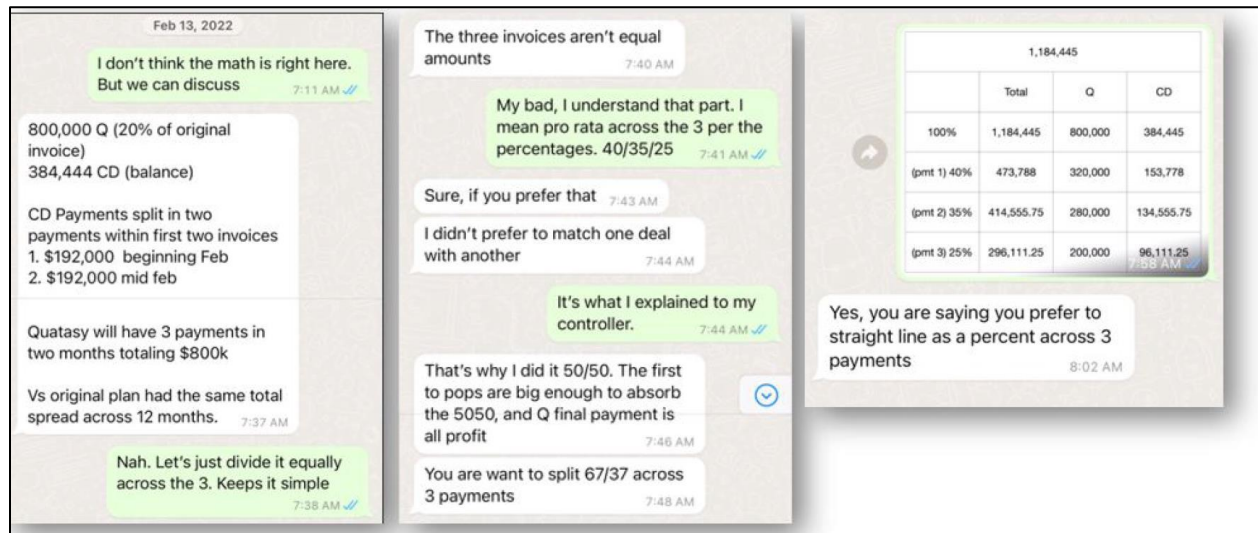
33. Other than Silver, Root management had no knowledge of Collateral Damage's existence, that it was Silver's business, or any purported work it was performing with Quantasy for Root.

34. Also on February 11, 2022, Silver and Campbell appear to have had an in-person meeting at Quantasy's Los Angeles offices.

35. After their meeting and the first Collateral Damage invoice, Silver and Campbell continued discussing payment arrangements for Collateral Damage. Specifically, on February 13, 2022, via WhatsApp Silver and Campbell discussed how the payments would be divided. As

shown in Figure 1 below, Silver and Campbell discussed: (i) the percentage of each of Root's payments to Quantasy that Collateral Damage would receive; and (ii) the percentage of Root's payments to Quantasy that Quantasy would receive.

Figure 1



36. In these WhatsApp messages Silver explained to Campbell that Quantasy would receive \$800,000 of the SOW #1 value, and that Collateral Damage would receive the remaining \$384,444 of the SOW #1 value. Silver suggested that Collateral Damage's payments be split into two portions, but Campbell stated that there should be three payments to Collateral Damage and that they should be divided up "pro rata" *i.e.* the same way that Root's payments to Quantasy were divided (40%, 35%, 25%). Silver and Campbell agreed to this division and that Collateral Damage would receive its payments totaling \$384,444 in the same tranches that Quantasy received its payments from Root: Collateral Damage would receive 40% of the total \$384,444 sum in Quantasy's first payment to Collateral Damage; 35% of the total \$384,444 sum in Quantasy's second payment to Collateral Damage; and the remaining 25% of the total \$384,444 sum in Quantasy's third payment to Collateral Damage, just as Quantasy received 40% of the total of SOW #1 from Root upon execution; 35% of the total of SOW #1 from Root on February 18, 2022;

and the remaining 25% of the total of SOW #1 from Root on March 1, 2022.

37. On about February 14, 2022, pursuant to the payment schedule Silver and Campbell agreed to, and unbeknownst to Root management (other than Silver), Quantasy wired \$153,778 to the Collateral Damage account that Silver had provided in his February 7, 2022 WhatsApp message to Campbell.

38. On February 23, 2022, Campbell sent Root Quantasy invoice number 2286 for \$414,555.75 with an already expired due date of February 18, 2022.

39. On February 24, 2022, Campbell met, via videoconference, with certain members of Root management, including Silver to present Quantasy's ideas for Root's marketing campaigns. Following the meeting, Silver sent Campbell a text message stating, "I had to explain some things to leaders, but they finally kinda started to see the light[.] That said, it doesn't really matter, I have autonomy to do what I need to do."

40. On February 25, 2022, Campbell sent Silver a text message notifying him that Root had yet to pay Quantasy for Invoice No. 2286 (\$414,555.75). On or about March 2, 2022, Campbell sent Silver a WhatsApp message, again stating that Root had yet to pay Quantasy for Invoice No. 2286. Campbell wrote that Collateral Damage should send its "invoice for phase 2" so that Quantasy could "have [it] ready" once Quantasy received Root's next payment. Campbell wrote that Silver should have "Lauren...send the next one." Upon information and belief, Campbell and Silver are referring to Lauren Lanskie and the "next one" was the second invoice from Collateral Damage.

41. On March 4, 2022, Campbell sent Silver a text message notifying him again that Quantasy had still not received payment from Root for Invoice No. 2286.

42. On March 7, 2022, at Silver's direction, Root wired Quantasy \$414,555.75 for

payment of Invoice No. 2286.

43. After receiving Root's payment on March 8, 2022, Campbell sent a text message to Silver on March 9, 2022, notifying Silver that Root's payment had been received. Campbell again told Silver (via a WhatsApp message) that he had not "receive[d] anything from Lauren." Campbell asked Silver to "resend" Collateral Damage's invoice, and assured Silver that "[o]ur team can handle right away." In response to this WhatsApp message, Silver sent Campbell Collateral Damage's second invoice. This invoice, numbered 12022021, was for \$134,555.75; included an invoice date of February 27, 2022 and a due date of March 1, 2022; and included as services "2021 Promotion Plan" and "Campaign Design Support." On March 9, 2022, unbeknownst to Root management (other than Silver), Quantasy wired Collateral Damage \$134,555.75 to the bank account that Silver had provided Campbell on February 7, 2022.

44. On March 16, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a text message instructing Campbell to only direct invoices to Silver in the future. Specifically Silver wrote that Individual A, Silver's direct marketing report at Root, was no longer authorized to approve Quantasy invoices and that invoices should be routed through him instead: "Send to just invoices and me[.] No longer [Individual A]. She no longer approves invoices." Campbell responded, "Uh oh. Did she get in trouble? You were not playing." Silver wrote back: "Yes. I can't have our vendors not being paid on time." But Individual A was not "in trouble." Rather she was only removed from the communication between Campbell and Root by Silver to ensure that she did not discover Silver and Campbell's scheme.

45. On March 17, 2022, Quantasy sent Root invoice number 2303 for \$296,111.25. This invoice was dated March 1, 2022 with a due date of March 1, 2022.

46. On March 24, 2022, at Silver's direction, Root wired Quantasy \$296,111.25 in

payment of invoice 2303.

47. The next day, on March 25, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a WhatsApp message alerting him that Quantasy “should have received the payment today.” Campbell responded, “[c]onfirmed” and “[p]lease have Lauren send an invoice.” Silver responded to Campbell that Lauren “sent the invoice.”

48. That same day, Campbell received an email from Lauren Lanskie attaching Collateral Damage invoice number 03012021 dated March 1, 2022, for \$96,111.25.

49. On March 28, 2022, unbeknownst to Root management (other than Silver), Quantasy wired Collateral Damage \$96,111.25 to the bank account that Silver had provided Campbell on February 7, 2022.

50. In total, pursuant to the February 13, 2022 WhatsApp arrangement between Silver and Campbell on behalf of Collateral Damage and Quantasy, Quantasy was paid a total of \$1,184,444 from Root. And Quantasy secretly transferred \$384,444 of that amount to Collateral Damage. Throughout this period, Root management was unaware of Collateral Damage, or that it was Silver’s company, and had no knowledge that Quantasy was paying Collateral Damage out of the money paid to Quantasy by Root. Root management received no documents or other materials from Collateral Damage to substantiate the \$384,444 fee it received and, upon information and belief, Root received no value for the \$384,444 that was paid by Quantasy to Collateral Damage.

C. Silver and Campbell Continue To Defraud Root.

51. At some point after April 1, 2022, Silver caused Root to enter into a second Scope of Work (“SOW #2”) with Quantasy valued at \$14.7 million. SOW #2 included an effective date of February 1, 2022 and provided that Root would pay Quantasy \$7,350,000 by April 1, 2022, and another \$7,350,000 by April 15, 2022. Campbell signed SOW #2 on behalf of Quantasy and Silver

signed on behalf of Root. On April 1, 2022, Campbell sent an email to Silver and Root's invoicing department attaching two Quantasy invoices: invoice number 2307 for \$3,450,000, and invoice number 2308 for \$3,900,000, for a total of \$7,350,000. Both invoices were due "on receipt."

52. On April 4, 2022, Root wired to Quantasy, at Silver's direction, a total of \$7,350,000 as payment for invoices 2307 and 2308.

53. The next day, April 5, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a WhatsApp message telling Campbell that "[p]ayments were sent out yesterday" and telling Campbell to "[l]et me know when you receive" because Silver will "have Lauren forward the invoice this morning."

54. On or about April 6, 2022, Campbell sent an email to Silver's private email account, "hello@bc-silver.com," informing Silver that Quantasy had already "started putting together a sub-contracting agreement between Quantasy and *your company* Collateral Damage." Campbell stated that Quantasy's attorney had "reminded" Campbell that "the advertising industry, especially the leading brands (both individually and through the ANA) have been very focused on the issues of subcontracting with *interested parties* and payments to agencies that include payments to third parties." Campbell advised Silver that Quantasy's attorneys "recommend[] . . . that the relationship between Quantasy and Collateral damage be approved by Root." Campbell suggested that "this can be done by having simple approval language in the subcontracting agreement between Collateral Damage and Quantasy. It can also be done by way of a separate document between Root and Quantasy that authorizes the subcontracting relationship, services provided, etc. The approval can be signed by someone in Root's procurement, finance or legal." This after-the-fact attempt to "formalize" an agreement between Quantasy and Collateral Damage with Root's purported approval was a further attempt to hide from Root the misdeeds being perpetrated by defendants Silver, Quantasy, Campbell, Collateral Damage, and Lanskie. In any event, no such

authorization or approval by Root ever occurred. At no point did Silver disclose his affiliation with Collateral Damage—or Collateral Damage’s existence, much less any work Collateral Damage was purportedly doing for Root or Quantasy—to other members of Root management.

55. On or about April 7, 2022, Silver sent a WhatsApp message to Campbell that Silver had been “completely removed from any previous ownership of CD.”

56. Upon information and belief, on or about April 11, 2022, Silver and McDaniel, a convicted felon awaiting sentencing in Georgia for mortgage fraud, caused a certificate of organization for Collateral Damage to be filed with the Georgia Secretary of State. The certificate of organization was signed by McDaniel, who, upon information and belief, is Silver’s sister, and was an additional attempt to hide Collateral Damage and its affiliation with Silver.

57. But despite the Georgia registration and his claim that he was “completely removed” from ownership of Collateral Damage, Silver registered Collateral Damage as a California LLC in his own name, on or around May 10, 2022. The address given for Collateral Damage on the California registration in Pasadena, California matches the address on Collateral Damage’s invoices to Quantasy and the address for Collateral Damage provided by Silver to Campbell on February 7, 2022.

58. Far from distancing himself from Collateral Damage, beginning in mid-April 2022, Silver’s contact with Campbell regarding the timing of payments to Collateral Damage became more urgent and aggressive. On April 11, 2022, Silver began questioning Campbell about when Collateral Damage would be paid by Quantasy over a series of WhatsApp messages, first asking: “What is the latest on the transfer? Did it go out Friday or this morning? They said it has not arrived yet. Maybe it’s weekend processing, so it will hit tomorrow.” That same day, unbeknownst to Root management (other than Silver), Quantasy wired Collateral Damage \$500,000. Two days

later, on April 13, 2022, again unbeknownst to Root management (other than Silver), Quantasy wired Collateral Damage another \$500,000.

59. On April 14, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a WhatsApp message outlining specific directions to follow when creating and sending invoices to Root. Silver instructed that they should “make sure invoices are less than \$10M so they don’t need board approval.” Later that same day, on April 14, 2022, Campbell sent Root’s invoicing department an email message attaching two Quantasy invoices: invoice number 2316 for \$3,450,000, and invoice number 2317 for \$3,900,000, for a total of \$7,350,000.

60. On April 15, 2022, Quantasy wired Collateral Damage another \$500,000. Five days later, on April 20, 2022, Quantasy wired Collateral Damage an additional \$1,300,000. As of April 20, 2022, Quantasy had paid Collateral Damage \$2.8 million from the funds that Root had paid Quantasy under SOW #2. Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of any of these payments to Collateral Damage.

61. On April 25, 2022, Root, at Silver’s direction, wired Quantasy \$7,350,000 in payment of invoices 2316 and 2317.

62. On April 27, 2022, Lanskie sent a W-9 tax form to Campbell for Collateral Damage. The form was electronically signed by “Paige Lynette” who, upon information and belief, is Paige Lynette McDaniel, Silver’s sister.

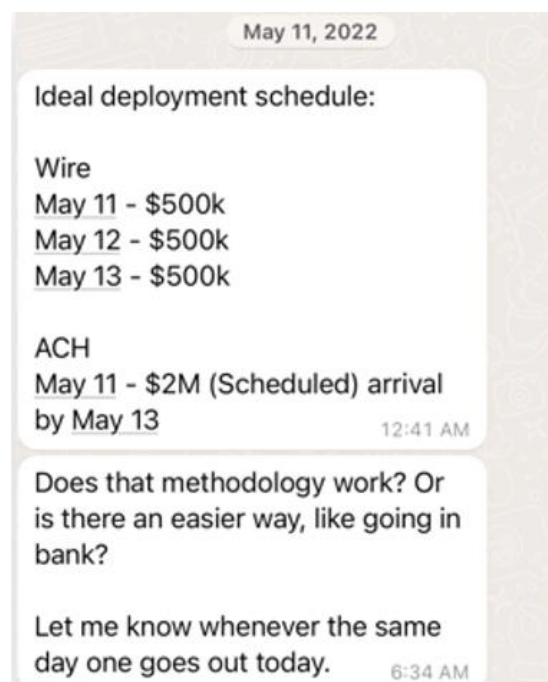
63. Also on April 27, 2022, Campbell received an email from Lauren Lanskie attaching Collateral Damage’s invoice 04152021 for \$5.6 million, with an April 15, 2022 due date. The invoice states that Collateral Damage will “implement a sports marketing program integrating athletes and sports organizations . . . for Root Insurance in support of national awareness with an additional regional two-state focus in Colorado and Oklahoma.” Root management (other than

Silver) was not aware of any, nor did it ever receive any, sports marketing program from Collateral Damage or Quantasy. On April 27, 2022, Quantasy wired \$1.5 million to the Collateral Damage bank account that Silver had provided to Campbell. The next day, April 28, 2022, Quantasy wired a total of \$1.3 million to that same account. Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of any of these payments to Collateral Damage.

64. Between April 27, 2022 and May 17, 2022, Silver continued to message Campbell on WhatsApp about the timing of the remaining wire payments from Quantasy to Collateral Damage. Silver was persistent in sending these types of messages throughout April and May to ensure that Collateral Damage was receiving its portion of Root's money.

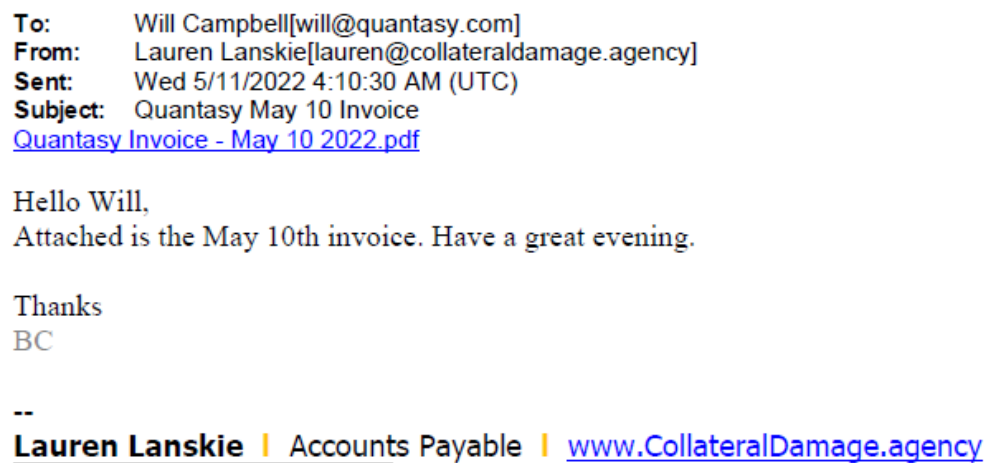
65. On May 11, 2022, Silver sent a WhatsApp message to Campbell stating: "Ideal deployment schedule" for Quantasy's wires to Collateral Damage: "Wire May 11 - \$500k[;] May 12- \$500k[;] May 13 - \$500k ACH[;] May 11 - \$2M (Scheduled) arrival by May 13." That message is shown in Figure 2 below:

Figure 2



66. Also on May 11, 2022, and as shown below, Campbell received an email from Lanskie's Collateral Damage email address attaching Collateral Damage invoice number 05092022 for \$3.5 million with a due date of May 10, 2022. Although the email attaching the invoice is from "lauren@collateraldamage.agency" the message is signed by "BC," (i.e. Silver).

Figure 3

The image is a screenshot of an email interface. The header section contains the following text: 'To: Will Campbell[will@quantasy.com]', 'From: Lauren Lanskie[lauren@collateraldamage.agency]', 'Sent: Wed 5/11/2022 4:10:30 AM (UTC)', and 'Subject: Quantasy May 10 Invoice'. Below the subject line is a blue hyperlink: 'Quantasy Invoice - May 10 2022.pdf'. The body of the email starts with 'Hello Will,' followed by 'Attached is the May 10th invoice. Have a great evening.' Below this is 'Thanks' and 'BC' on separate lines. At the bottom, there is a signature block that reads '--', 'Lauren Lanskie | Accounts Payable |', and a blue hyperlink 'www.CollateralDamage.agency'.

To: Will Campbell[will@quantasy.com]
From: Lauren Lanskie[lauren@collateraldamage.agency]
Sent: Wed 5/11/2022 4:10:30 AM (UTC)
Subject: Quantasy May 10 Invoice
[Quantasy Invoice - May 10 2022.pdf](#)

Hello Will,
Attached is the May 10th invoice. Have a great evening.

Thanks
BC

--
Lauren Lanskie | Accounts Payable | www.CollateralDamage.agency

67. As with Collateral Damage invoice 04152021, invoice 05092022 states that Collateral Damage will "implement a sports marketing program integrating athletes and sports organizations . . . to active for brand clients. In support of national awareness with an additional regional and national executions." Root management (other than Silver) was never aware of any sports marketing program that was to be implemented by Collateral Damage or Quantasy.

68. On May 11, 2022, Quantasy wired \$500,000 to the Collateral Damage bank account that Silver had provided Campbell on February 7, 2022. Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of this payment to Collateral Damage. On or about May 12, 2022, Silver sent Campbell a WhatsApp message, telling Campbell that "the team said they didn't see the second wire today" and asking Campbell if he could be put in direct contact with whoever is sending the money from

Quantasy so that Silver did not need to “bother[]” Campbell further about the payments to Collateral Damage.

69. The next day, on May 13, 2022, Quantasy sent two additional wires for \$500,000 each to the Collateral Damage bank account. Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of any of these payments to Collateral Damage.

70. On May 16, 2022, Silver sent WhatsApp messages with even more heightened urgency to Campbell, telling Campbell that “[s]ame day wires should be used for today’s completion” and that “[w]hatever that comes in beyond the \$2M will be returned to Quantasy within 24 hours.” Silver told Campbell that in order to get the money as quickly as possible, “my team will just walk into the physical branch to schedule a transfer” and that “my team will also update me the moment the[y] see it reflected on their side.” Silver also said that the money was “supposed to make it into the account last week on Friday, but it never arrived.” That same day, Quantasy wired an additional \$500,000 to the Collateral Damage account. Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of this payment to Collateral Damage.

71. On May 17, 2022, as reflected in Figures 4-6 below, Silver sent increasingly desperate messages to Campbell requesting that Campbell urgently transfer funds to Collateral Damage, telling Campbell that “this is major for me today, in the next hour” and “please . . . send over final confirmation in the next hour.” When Campbell responded that his employees were busy with work on another account, Silver told Campbell: “I thought we had a good plan ahead of schedule, but I understand things get confusing. Please have him Hope [sic] out they are a bit under the gun on an acquisition.” Silver then sent Campbell a screenshot of Silver’s text message conversation with third party with the initial “K” stating that, “Maria is stalling as much as she can, but if seller asks if she has the money in escrow, she cannot lie. As you know, legally wire

should have been there yesterday. We've been able to stall due to this delay on the lien/permit (title) search. However, if the search gets back before wire is received we're in breach of contract." (Figure 5). Later that same day, Campbell sent Silver a photograph of Campbell standing in front of Chase bank, indicating the final wire transfer was completed, to which Silver responded: "That's my dawg. Send confirmation once you have it." Root management (other than Silver) were unaware of these communications between Silver and Campbell.

Figure 4

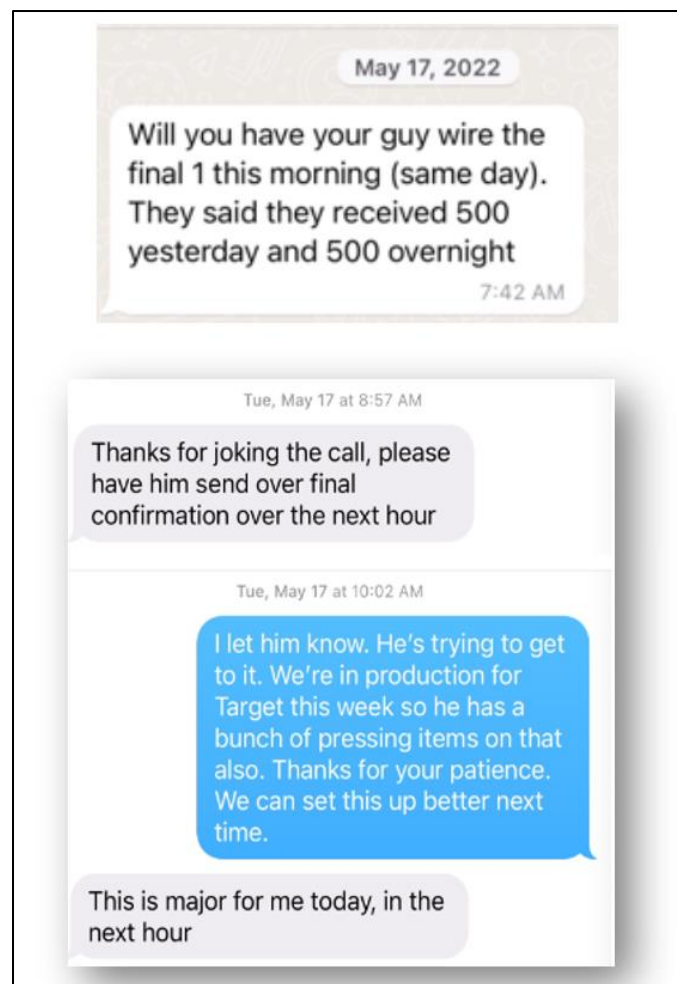


Figure 5

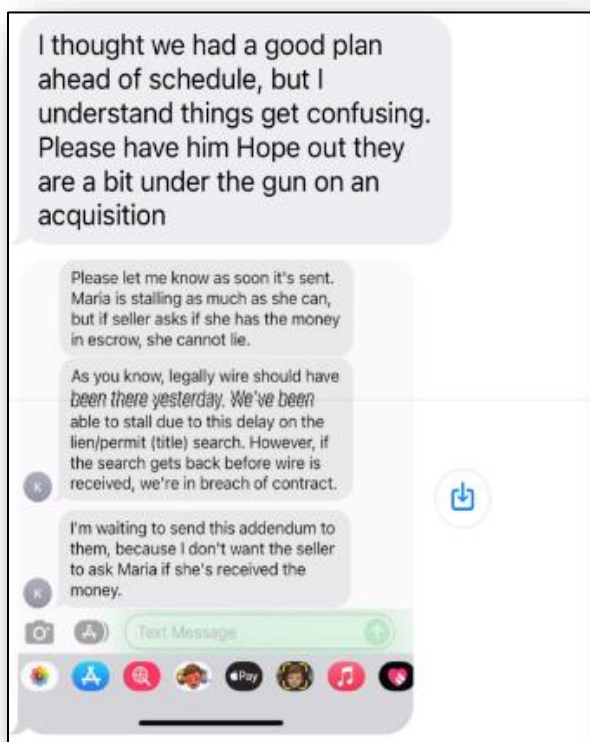
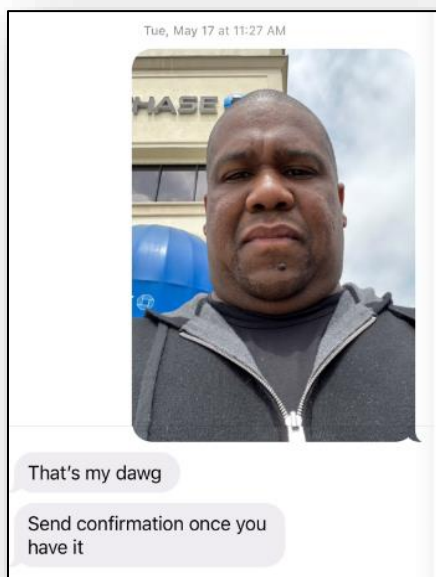


Figure 6



72. On May 17, 2022, Quantasy wired a total of \$1.5 million to Collateral Damage.

73. In total, Quantasy was paid \$14,700,000 from Root related to SOW #2 and, of that amount, Quantasy transferred \$9,100,000 to Collateral Damage. Throughout this period, Root management (other than Silver) was unaware of Collateral Damage, or that Collateral Damage was Silver's company, and had no knowledge that Quantasy was paying Collateral Damage from the money Root paid to Quantasy. Root management (other than Silver) received no documents or other materials from Collateral Damage to substantiate the \$9,100,000 fee it received and, upon information and belief, Root received no value for the \$9,100,000 that was paid by Quantasy to Collateral Damage.

74. On information and belief, Silver used the funds wired to Collateral Damage to make various purchases. Between April 2022 and August 2022, Silver purchased at least three high-end residential properties in Miami, Florida, and Venice, California, totaling in excess of \$10 million. Upon information and belief, Silver's real estate purchases were funded, at least in part, by the money Quantasy wired to Collateral Damage. In order to conceal his ownership of the properties, Silver purchased these properties using Eclipse, which, upon information and belief, is a limited liability company owned and controlled by Silver.

75. While all three home purchases occurred around the time of Quantasy's fraudulent transfer of over \$9.4 million to Collateral Damage, one of Eclipse's (Silver's) purchases lines up precisely with the timing of Silver's frantic messages to Campbell in Figures 4-6 above. On May 13, 2022, a warranty deed was conveyed to Eclipse for a property located at 13105 Biscayne Island Terrace, Miami Shores, Florida, 33181. The warranty deed contains a re-occupancy certificate signed by Silver. The mortgage on the property was recorded on June 27, 2022 for \$1,195,000, and is also signed by Silver as Eclipse's "Managing Member."

76. According to the Zillow real estate website, 13105 Biscayne Island Terrace is a waterfront property that sold for \$3,250,000 on May 18, 2022, the day after Silver's frantic messages to Campbell. Figure 7 below is a publicly available picture of the 13105 Biscayne Island Terrace property.

Figure 7



77. A month earlier, on April 28, 2022, Eclipse was conveyed another property in Miami Dade County by deed. The April property has a Parcel Identification Number of 11-3205-001-0590, which publicly available records indicate is a property located at 9125 North Bayshore Drive. Silver, acting as Eclipse's "Managing Member," is the signatory for a \$2,275,000 mortgage on the 9125 North Bayshore Drive property.

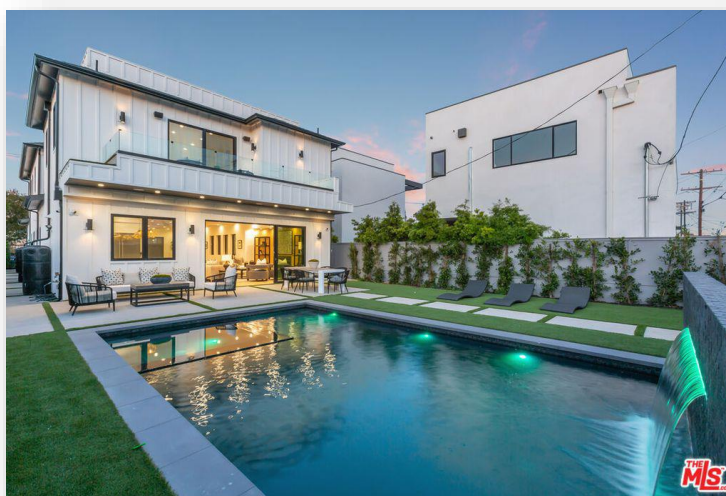
78. According to the Zillow website, 9125 North Bayshore Drive is a waterfront property that sold for \$4,350,000 on April 28, 2022. Figure 8 is a publicly available picture of the 9125 North Bayshore Drive property.

Figure 8



79. On August 2, 2022, a mortgage of \$1,932,000 was recorded on a property at 2543 Walnut Avenue, Venice, California 90291. The mortgage was signed by Silver as a “Managing Member” of Eclipse. According to Zillow, 2543 Walnut Avenue sold on August 2, 2022 for \$3,295,000. Figure 9 is a publicly available picture of the 2543 Walnut Avenue property.

Figure 9



D. Silver and Campbell Attempt to Further Cover Up Their Fraud.

80. In or about June and July 2022, Root's Finance Department became aware of unplanned spending from the marketing department and began investigating the cause of the overage.

81. Aware of this heightened scrutiny, Silver and Campbell issued a series of change orders in an attempt to cover their tracks. Among other things, the change orders stated that the money that Root had already paid Quantasy pursuant to SOW #2, and that Quantasy had already paid (unbeknownst to Root) to Collateral Damage, constituted Root's "prepaid funds" that were available for future spend. With the exception of the February 24, 2022 presentation to Root management, which provided no actual marketing or advertising for Root and for which Quantasy charged Root a staggering \$1.2 million dollars, Quantasy provided little in the way of services to Root. Rather the "value" enjoyed was by windfall to Quantasy for services not provided and by Silver who now enjoyed the benefits of owning three multi-million dollar properties purchased with Root's funds.

82. On July 25, 2022, at Root's request and urging, Quantasy agreed to return \$1.2 million from SOW #2 to Root, bringing SOW #2's new value down from \$14.7 million to \$13.5 million. This agreement had an effective date of July 5, 2022. Root received this \$1.2 million refund via wire payment on August 26, 2022. Silver conducted all communications with Quantasy related to the \$1.2 million himself, without involvement by others at Root, and at no time did Quantasy disclose to anyone at Root that the majority of the \$14.7 million was actually not held by Quantasy at all, but had been transferred to Silver's company months earlier and then spent by Silver on his luxury coastal homes.

83. In late July 2022, Root initiated an internal audit to fully investigate and

determine the cause of the suspiciously high marketing spend. Root was particularly interested in investigating Root's relationship with Quantasy, as the money paid to Quantasy represented the bulk of the increased marketing expense. At this point, Root management (other than Silver) was still unaware of the payments made by Quantasy to Collateral Damage.

84. On August 20, 2022, Quantasy and Collateral Damage entered into an after-the-fact subcontractor agreement, with an effective date of February 2, 2022. "Paige Lynette" appears as signatory for Collateral Damage as "President," and Campbell signed on behalf of Quantasy.

85. On or around August 22, 2022, Root's internal audit team questioned Campbell directly about Quantasy's work for Root to determine whether there was justification for the millions of dollars Root had paid to Quantasy. Loyal to Silver and their scheme, Campbell lied to Root and never disclosed that, in fact, the majority of Root's payments had been funneled to Collateral Damage.

86. Quantasy not only omitted crucial information about Collateral Damage during the course of Root's audit, but also explicitly misrepresented that Root's spend with Quantasy was still available to be reallocated and spent in 2023. On September 22, 2022, Quantasy employee David Rodriguez confirmed to Root's internal audit team that \$10.7 million of the \$14.7 million original spend was "currently unallocated/ uncommitted at this time." Rodriguez responded to an email from a member of the Root team working on the internal audit that "[y]es, the \$10.7M can be used for paid media in 2023." This was, of course, not true, as \$9.1 million of the \$10.7 million was already paid to Collateral Damage.

87. On August 22 and August 23, 2022, Silver sent Campbell WhatsApp messages containing screenshots of Root's confidential communications and internal audit findings, which did not uncover Silver and Campbell's carefully concealed fraud. Silver wrote, "we literally are

good. *I just need for you to trust me and hold the line.*”

88. On September 29, 2022, Quantasy purported to “assign” the August 20, 2022 subcontractor agreement between Quantasy and Collateral Damage to Root. The only signatory on the assignment from Root was Silver; other members of Root management had no knowledge of the assignment.

89. On November 9, 2022, Silver’s last day at Root, Silver purported to email Lanskie asking Lanskie to provide Silver with all the purported agreements between Collateral Damage and Root. Upon information and belief, the agreements were not in Root’s possession before this November 9, 2022 email, and they include numerous indicia of having been fabricated.

90. Lanskie’s email attached three purported agreements between Collateral Damage and Root: (i) an SOW between Root and Collateral Damage; (ii) a subcontractor agreement between Root and Collateral Damage; and (iii) a Client Media Authorization (“CMA”) between Root and Collateral Damage. Silver is the only Root signatory on any of the agreements.

- a. The SOW notes that Collateral Damage will move all “H2 Marketing Plans to January 2023” and that the “remaining budget will be leveraged next year.” This remaining budget is \$9.1 million, which is the amount Quantasy sent Collateral Damage on SOW #2. This SOW is signed by Silver and Lanskie on behalf of Collateral Damage (but Lanskie’s name is misspelled as “Lanski”).
- b. The subcontractor agreement, which is dated October 4, 2022, between Root and Collateral Damage, sets forth that Root would engage Collateral Damage as a subcontractor for the provision of “strategy, branding, media and production services.” This agreement was also signed by Silver and Lanskie, with Lanskie’s name again misspelled as “Lanski.” Upon information and belief, no such

services have ever been provided by Collateral Damage to Root.

- c. The CMA was purportedly entered into between Root and Collateral Damage on October 10, 2022 by Silver and Lanskie, identifying services totaling \$9.1 million. Lanskie's name is again misspelled as "Lanski" and she is listed in this document as the "Principal/Owner" of Collateral Damage. The CMA contains an "Estimated Budget" by partner purporting to divide the \$9.1 million into three categories: "ESPN" (\$2,222,222), "Barstool Sports" (\$4,370,629) and "iHeart" (\$2,507,142). Upon information and belief, no work was done or contemplated with these entities on Root's behalf.

91. On November 16, 2022, following Silver's departure from the company, Root executives met virtually with David Rodriguez at Quantasy to engage in further discussions about clawing back the \$10.7 million that Quantasy was purportedly holding for Root to spend on marketing initiatives in 2023. Not surprisingly, Campbell refused to attend the meeting. During this meeting, Rodriguez disclosed to Root management, for the first time, the existence of Collateral Damage. Rodriguez also told Root management that payments had been made to Collateral Damage using Root's funds. Rodriguez stated that he would be "overly transparent," and disclosed that Quantasy itself held approximately \$1.6 million that could potentially be returned from the \$10.7 million outstanding, but that the other \$9.1 million had been transferred, immediately upon Quantasy's receipt from Root, to Collateral Damage. This was the first time Root management (other than Silver) learned of Collateral Damage or that the money Root provided Quantasy had been transferred to Collateral Damage.

92. Root's investigation of Silver's misdeeds is ongoing. Upon information and belief, Root believes that other similar fraudulent schemes may exist between (at least) Silver and other

vendors that Silver hired during his tenure at Root. Root has recently been made aware of at least one other vendor that transferred funds paid by Root at Silver's direction to Collateral Damage. Root is continuing to investigate these payments. Root reserves the right to amend its pleadings to add allegations about these and other payments and to join other appropriate defendants as it uncovers the necessary facts.

COUNT I: 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c) Civil RICO
(Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organizations) Against All Defendants

93. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

94. Defendants are individuals and/or entities capable of holding a legal or beneficial interest in property, within the meaning of "person" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(3).

95. Defendants constitute an association in fact under the meaning of "enterprise" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(4). Additionally or alternatively, Collateral Damage and Eclipse constitute an "enterprise" under 18 U.S.C. § 1961(4).

96. Defendants associated together as an enterprise for the purpose of executing a scheme to defraud Plaintiffs through a pattern of racketeering consisting of distinct acts of wire fraud and money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1343 and 1956.

97. Silver participated in the enterprise by, among other things: devising and participating in a scheme with Defendants Campbell, Lanskie, McDaniel, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions resulting in Root's funds being transferred (through Quantasy) to Silver's own company, Collateral Damage. Silver further participated in the enterprise by: actively concealing and failing to disclose the existence of Collateral Damage and Silver's affiliation with Collateral Damage to Root management; utilizing Collateral Damage to submit false invoices to Quantasy for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit, but rather for his own personal gain; filing

corporate registration documents for Collateral Damage in California and causing a certificate of organization for Collateral Damage to be filed with the Georgia Secretary of State in an attempt to conceal Silver's affiliation with Collateral Damage from Root; creating and causing to be created false invoices, emails, contracts and subcontracts to further the scheme; abusing his authority at Root by causing the payment of Root funds to Collateral Damage through Quantasy that were ultimately for his personal gain; and using the ill-gotten funds received from Root through Quantasy and Collateral Damage for his personal benefit, including the purchase of luxury homes in California and Florida.

98. Campbell participated in the enterprise by, among other things, devising and participating in a scheme with Defendants Silver, Lanskie, McDaniel, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions resulting in Root's funds being transferred (through Quantasy) to Silver's own company, Collateral Damage; accepting the payment of funds from Root for services not rendered; representing to Root that Quantasy had provided services to Root when it had not; failing to disclose the existence of Collateral Damage and its affiliation with Silver to Root; utilizing Quantasy to submit false invoices to Root for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit; knowingly paying funds received by Quantasy from Root over to Collateral Damage for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit; and creating false invoices, contracts, purported work product and subcontracts to further the scheme.

99. Quantasy participated in the enterprise by participating in a scheme with Defendants Silver, Campbell, Lanskie, McDaniel, Collateral Damage, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Quantasy and Collateral Damage had provided services to Root when they had not and resulting in Root's funds being

secretly transferred (through Quantasy) to Collateral Damage; accepting the payment of funds from Root for services not rendered; failing to disclose the existence of Collateral Damage and its affiliation with Silver to Root; submitting false invoices to Root for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, by Quantasy for Root's benefit; knowingly paying funds received by Quantasy from Root to Collateral Damage for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit; and creating false invoices, contracts, purported work product and subcontracts to further the scheme.

100. Collateral Damage participated in the enterprise by among other things: participating in a scheme with Silver, Campbell, Lanskie, McDaniel, Quantasy, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Collateral Damage had provided services to Root when it had not and resulting in Root's funds being secretly transferred (through Quantasy) to Collateral Damage; accepting the payment of funds from Quantasy for services not rendered; submitting false invoices to Quantasy for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit, but rather solely for the personal gain of the co-conspirators, including Silver; creating false paperwork, including but not limited to invoices, contracts and subcontracts to further the scheme; and ultimately disbursing the ill-gotten funds received from Root through Quantasy for the sole benefit of its principals and employees, including Silver, McDaniel, Lanskie, and Williams.

101. McDaniel, through her association with Collateral Damage, participated in the enterprise by among other things: participating in a scheme with Silver, Campbell, Lanskie, Collateral Damage, Quantasy, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Collateral Damage had provided services to Root when it had not and resulting in Root's funds being secretly transferred (through Quantasy) to Collateral Damage; and causing a certificate of organization for Collateral Damage to be filed with the Georgia

Secretary of State in an attempt to conceal Silver's affiliation with Collateral Damage from Root.

102. Lanskie, through her association with Collateral Damage, participated in the enterprise by among other things: participating in a scheme with Silver, Campbell, McDaniel, Collateral Damage, Quantasy, and Eclipse designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Collateral Damage had provided services to Root when it had not and resulting in Root's funds being secretly transferred (through Quantasy) to Collateral Damage; accepting the payment of funds from Quantasy for services not rendered; submitting false invoices from Quantasy for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit, but rather solely for personal gain; and creating false paperwork, including but not limited to invoices, contracts and subcontracts to further the scheme.

103. Eclipse, which is owned and controlled by Silver, upon information and belief, participated in the scheme and knew of the fraud through Silver and ultimately received the ill-gotten funds from Root through Quantasy and Collateral Damage. Eclipse (through Silver) then utilized the funds, in whole or in part, to purchase luxury real estate in California and Florida.

104. Defendants' scheme to defraud Plaintiffs injured Plaintiffs in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT II: Fraudulent Concealment
Against Silver, Campbell, and Quantasy

105. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

106. As Root's CMO, Silver had a duty to disclose the following known material information to Root: Collateral Damage is owned, controlled, and/or otherwise affiliated with Silver and/or an immediate family member; Quantasy transferred funds received from Root to Collateral Damage; Silver acted on Collateral Damage's behalf to negotiate and facilitate the payments from Quantasy to Collateral Damage; some or all of the funds that were transferred to

Collateral Damage from Quantasy were not used for Root's benefit, but were, upon information and belief, transferred to another entity owned by Silver (Eclipse) and used to purchase real estate. This information was material to Root's business relationship with Quantasy because Root would not have entered into a business relationship with Quantasy with this knowledge.

107. As a party to the business transaction between Root and Quantasy, Campbell and Quantasy had a duty to disclose to Root, among other things, the following: Quantasy's intent to subcontract marketing work for Root to Collateral Damage; Quantasy's intent to work out a private payment structure with Silver that was not disclosed to anyone else at Root; that instead of performing marketing work for Root, Quantasy and Campbell were channeling funds to Collateral Damage even though Collateral Damage was not performing marketing services. This information was material to Root's business relationship with Quantasy because Root would not have entered into a business relationship with Quantasy with this knowledge.

108. Silver, Campbell, and Quantasy intentionally concealed the above material information from Root in order to induce Root into entering a business relationship with Quantasy and paying Quantasy at least \$9.4 million for services that were never rendered.

109. Root justifiably relied on Silver, Campbell, and Quantasy in entering the business relationship with Quantasy because it had no knowledge of the private agreements between the Defendants to defraud it and could not have obtained that knowledge absent Defendants' confessions.

110. As a result of Silver, Campbell, and Quantasy's concealment of material facts concerning the transaction, Root suffered damages in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT III: Fraudulent Misrepresentation
Against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, and Lanskie

111. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

112. On information and belief, Defendants Campbell, Quantasy, and Silver made material misrepresentations during the February 24, 2022 presentation by Quantasy regarding the work that Quantasy intended to do for Root. At that time, Campbell and Quantasy already had an under-the-table deal with Silver for Quantasy and/or Collateral Damage to receive funds from Root without rendering services.

113. Silver, Campbell, and Quantasy made material misrepresentations to Root concerning the transaction between Root and Quantasy by claiming that the money Root had already paid Quantasy constituted “prepaid funds” that were available for future spend in 2023. On September 22, 2022, David Rodriguez confirmed to Root’s internal audit team that \$10.7 million of the \$14.7 million original spend was “currently unallocated/ uncommitted at this time” and could be used for paid media. In reality, at least \$9.1 million of these funds were already transferred to Collateral Damage.

114. On information and belief, Campbell and Quantasy made material misrepresentations to the Root internal audit team in August 2022. Campbell told Root that Quantasy had done work for Root that justified the value of what Root paid Quantasy, when, in fact, Quantasy had transferred the majority of the funds to Collateral Damage. Campbell acted in his own capacity (and as a representative of Quantasy) when he was interviewed by Root’s internal audit team.

115. When questioned about Collateral Damage by Root management, Silver made material misrepresentations to Root. On November 22, 2022, Silver emailed Root’s general counsel and stated that Silver introduced Quantasy to Collateral Damage to help with sports marketing and gaming support. Silver further stated that Quantasy had full control over who it selected as subcontractor. Silver informed Root’s general counsel that this was all of the

information he could provide Root about Collateral Damage. Silver's own counsel repeated Silver's misrepresentations to Root's general counsel on December 1, 2022.

116. Lanskie made material representations to Root by creating and sending Root fabricated and backdated agreements purportedly between Root and Collateral Damage in order to cover up her and the other co-conspirators' scheme. Lanskie's agreements are replete with errors and include false statements of her own title and authority to enter into the agreements, e.g., characterizing herself as "principal" when in fact Lanskie's earlier emails reflect that she was in "accounts payable" or an "executive assistant."

117. Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage and Lanskie made the above representations with knowledge of their falsity and/or with such utter disregard and recklessness as to whether they were true or false that such knowledge may be inferred.

118. Defendants made the representations with the intent of misleading Root into relying upon them and continuing in the business transaction with Quantasy.

119. Plaintiffs justifiably relied on the representations.

120. Plaintiffs were directly and proximately injured as a result of their reliance on Defendants' representations in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT IV: Conversion
Against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, Eclipse, McDaniel, and Lanskie

121. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

122. Plaintiffs owned or had a right to possess their funds at the time of the conversion.

123. Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, McDaniel, Lanskie, and Eclipse together converted the funds by a wrongful act or disposition of Plaintiffs' property rights by transferring the funds to Quantasy and then to Collateral Damage. From Collateral Damage, Defendants transferred some of the funds to Eclipse to purchase multiple multi-million dollar

coastal properties.

124. Plaintiffs demanded the return of the funds from Defendants after Defendants exerted dominion or control over the property. On or about June or July 2022, when Root's finance department became aware of the excessive and unauthorized spend from the marketing department, it demanded the return of funds from Quantasy.

125. Quantasy and Campbell refused to return all of the stolen funds to Plaintiffs. Instead, Quantasy returned a total of \$2.8 million of the \$15.9 million paid to Quantasy.

126. Plaintiffs were injured by Defendants' conversion in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

**COUNT V: O.R.C. 2307.60, 2307.61 Civil Action for Criminal Theft
Against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, Eclipse, Lanskie, and McDaniel**

127. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

128. By stealing money from Plaintiffs, Defendants Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, Eclipse, Lanskie and McDaniel have committed a theft offense under Ohio law.

129. Defendants, with purpose to deprive Plaintiffs of the funds, knowingly obtained or exerted control over the funds without Plaintiffs' consent, and/or beyond the scope of the express or implied consent Plaintiffs gave Defendants, and/or by deception.

130. Silver did not have Plaintiffs' permission to transfer funds to Quantasy under the circumstances alleged herein in which Quantasy transferred the majority of Root's funds to Collateral Damage, a concealed third party.

131. Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, Eclipse, Lanskie, and McDaniel all exerted control over the funds without Plaintiffs' consent because Silver did not have Plaintiffs' consent to transfer those funds to them. As described herein, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral

Damage, Eclipse, Lanskie, and McDaniel took steps to induce and actively conceal their scheme from Plaintiffs.

132. Campbell and Quantasy exerted control over the funds beyond the scope of the express or implied consent Plaintiffs gave them by subcontracting work and paying millions of dollars to Collateral Damage without Root's knowledge or permission.

133. As a result of Defendants' theft of the funds, Plaintiffs suffered damages in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

**COUNT VI: O.R.C. 2913.05 Civil Action for Criminal Act of Telecommunications Fraud
Against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Lanskie and Collateral Damage**

134. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

135. Defendants, having devised a scheme to defraud, knowingly transmitted by means of a telecommunications device a writing with the purpose to execute or otherwise further the scheme to defraud.

136. As set forth above, Defendants Silver and Campbell communicated via text message, WhatsApp, and Silver's personal email throughout the relevant time period to act on behalf of Quantasy and Collateral Damage as part of their scheme to defraud Plaintiffs. By way of example:

- a. Silver first messaged Campbell via text message to discuss Root hiring Quantasy to perform marketing work.
- b. Silver and Campbell, via text message, communicated about the SOW in December 2021.
- c. Then, using WhatsApp, Silver and Campbell negotiated and decided how to split up each of Root's payments between Quantasy and Collateral Damage.

- d. After Quantasy presented a PowerPoint presentation to Root, Silver told Campbell via text message that even though Root's leadership was not impressed by the presentation, he could hire Quantasy because he had "the autonomy to do what I need to."
- e. Silver sent fraudulent Collateral Damage invoices to Campbell via electronic messaging.
- f. Silver, Quantasy, and Campbell used electronic messaging to direct Root to make fraudulent payments by wire to Quantasy;
- g. Silver, Campbell, Lanskie, Collateral Damage, and Quantasy used electronic messaging to direct Quantasy to make fraudulent payments by wire to Collateral Damage;
- h. Silver and Campbell, on behalf of Quantasy and Collateral Damage, regularly communicated via text and WhatsApp messages about payments between Root, Quantasy, and Collateral Damage;
- i. Silver, Lanskie, and Campbell used text messaging, WhatsApp, and email accounts to create backdated and otherwise fraudulent documents to cover up their scheme.

137. Defendants Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, and Collateral Damage communicated via text message and WhatsApp to avoid detection of their fraudulent scheme. Defendant Silver further used his personal email (as opposed to his provided Root email account) to avoid detection of his participation in the scheme.

138. As a result of Defendants' transmissions, Plaintiffs suffered damages in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT VII: Breach of Contract Against Silver

139. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

140. The Employment Agreement and Conflicts of Interest Policy are valid contracts between Caret Holdings and Silver.

141. Caret Holdings fully performed its obligations under the contracts.

142. In his Employment Agreement, Silver agreed to devote his “full-time energies and attention to the business affairs” of Caret Holdings; and to perform his “duties, responsibilities and functions to [Caret Holdings] . . . in a diligent, trustworthy, professional, ethical and efficient manner”; and to “comply with the policies and procedures of [Caret Holdings].” The Conflicts of Interest Policy provided that: “Root expects all employees to conduct themselves and company business in a manner that reflects the highest standards of ethical conduct and in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. This includes avoiding real and potential conflicts of interest.”

143. Silver breached his employment agreement and the Conflicts of Interest Policy as described herein, by at least the following actions: (1) directing Root’s funds to be paid to his own company Collateral Damage, (2) concealing Collateral Damage’s existence and his affiliation with Collateral Damage from Root; (3) failing to conduct himself ethically in accordance with the law; (4) engaging in an ongoing conflict of interest; and (5) using Root’s funds to make real estate purchases via Eclipse.

144. As a direct and proximate cause of Silver’s breaches of the contract, Plaintiffs have suffered damages greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT VIII: Breach of Contract Against Quantasy

145. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

146. SOW #1 and SOW #2 are valid contracts between RIA and Quantasy.

147. RIA fully performed its obligations under SOW #1 and SOW #2.

148. Quantasy breached the contracts by, among other things: failing to provide the agreed upon marketing services to Root as set forth in SOW #1 and SOW #2 and by entering into a purported subcontract with Collateral Damage without Root's knowledge or permission.

149. Further, Quantasy breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

150. As a direct and proximate cause of Quantasy's breaches of the contract, Plaintiffs have suffered damages greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT IX: Breach of Fiduciary Duty Against Silver

151. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

152. As Root's CMO, Silver had a fiduciary duty to perform his job duties in good faith, in a manner he reasonably believed to be in the best interests of Root, and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in the same position would use under similar circumstances.

153. Silver breached his duty by diverting Root's funds to Collateral Damage. As set forth herein, this included: agreeing to a scheme with Quantasy and Campbell designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Quantasy and Collateral Damage had provided services when neither had; failing to disclose the existence of Collateral Damage and his affiliation with Collateral Damage to Root management; utilizing Collateral Damage to submit false invoices to Quantasy for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit, but rather for his own personal gain; causing a certificate of organization for Collateral Damage to be filed with the Georgia Secretary of State in an attempt to hide Silver's affiliation with Collateral Damage from Root; creating false invoices, contracts, subcontracts and purported work product to further the scheme; abusing his authority at Root to facilitate the payment of Root funds to

Collateral Damage through Quantasy that were ultimately for his personal gain; and ultimately using the ill-gotten funds received from Root through Quantasy and Collateral Damage for his personal benefit, including the purchase of luxury homes in California and Florida.

154. Silver did not reasonably believe that he was acting in Root's best interest.

155. An ordinarily prudent person in the same situation would have used substantially greater care in performing their duties as CMO.

156. In fact, Silver deliberately intended to cause injury to Plaintiffs and/or acted with reckless disregard to the best interests of Root.

157. As a result of Silver's failure to observe his duty, Plaintiffs suffered damages in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

COUNT X: Civil Conspiracy
Against Silver, Campbell, Quantasy, Collateral Damage, McDaniel, and Lanskie

158. Plaintiffs restate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully rewritten herein.

159. Through the foregoing fraudulent and tortious conduct, Defendants have maliciously and purposely conspired and combined to cause injury to Plaintiffs.

160. Defendants have caused injury to Plaintiffs through separate, unlawful acts of fraud and tortious conduct, including but not limited to the following: agreeing to a scheme designed to defraud Root of funds through a series of false transactions claiming that Quantasy and Collateral Damage had provided services when neither had; failing to disclose the existence of Collateral Damage to Root; utilizing Collateral Damage to submit false invoices to Quantasy for services not rendered, nor ever rendered, for Root's benefit; causing a certificate of organization for Collateral Damage to be filed with the Georgia Secretary of State in an attempt to hide Silver's affiliation with Collateral Damage from Root; creating false invoices, contracts, purported work product and subcontracts to further the scheme; and ultimately using the ill-gotten funds received from Root

through Quantasy and Collateral Damage for, among other things, the purchase of luxury homes in California and Florida.

161. Defendants' malicious combination has injured Plaintiffs in an amount greater than \$9.4 million.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, Plaintiffs seek:

- A. Compensatory damages, jointly and severally from all Defendants, in an amount greater than \$75,000;
- B. A temporary restraining order and a preliminary and permanent injunction to enjoin Defendants from placing any mortgage and/or other lien on, or otherwise using, converting, and disposing of any proceeds from any sale of the property located at 13105 Biscayne Island Terrace, Miami, Florida and/or 9125 North Bayshore Drive Miami, Florida and/or 2543 Walnut Avenue, Venice, California 90291, until this matter is resolved on the merits;
- C. A temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to enjoin Defendants from using, converting, transferring, or disposing of any of their assets, except as normal day-to-day transactions;
- D. Pre- and post- judgment interest;
- E. Punitive damages jointly and severally from all Defendants;
- F. Attorneys' fees and costs;
- G. Any other declarative, injunctive, or other equitable relief this Court deems just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William D. Kloss, Jr.

William D. Kloss, Jr. (0040854), Trial Attorney
Elizabeth S. Alexander (0096401)
Grace E. Saalman (0101603)
VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP
52 East Gay Street, P.O. Box 1008
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008
Phone: (614) 464-6360 Fax: (614) 719-4807
wdklossjr@vorys.com
esalexander@vorys.com
gesaalman@vorys.com

Matthew L. Kutcher (IL Bar No. 6275320)
(*application for pro hac vice forthcoming*)
COOLEY LLP
110 N. Wacker Drive Suite 4200
Chicago, IL 60606
Phone (312)-881-6500
Fax (312)-881 6598
mkutcher@cooley.com

Kristine A. Forderer (CA Bar No. 278754)
(*application for pro hac vice forthcoming*)
COOLEY LLP
3 Embarcadero Center
San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone (415) 693-2128
kforderer@cooley.com

Counsel for Plaintiffs

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs request a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William D. Kloss, Jr.

William D. Kloss, Jr. (0040854), Trial

Attorney

Elizabeth S. Alexander (0096401)

Grace E. Saalman (0101603)

VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP

52 East Gay Street, P.O. Box 1008

Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008

Phone: (614) 464-6360 Fax: (614) 719-4807

wdklossjr@vorys.com

esalexander@vorys.com

gesaalman@vorys.com

Counsel for Plaintiffs

**VERIFICATION OF COMPLAINT FOR
DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN)

I, Robert Bateman, certify that I am the Chief Financial Officer of Root, Inc., which is the parent company of Caret Holdings, Inc. and Root Insurance Agency, LLC. I am authorized to make this verification on behalf of Root, Inc., Caret Holdings, Inc., and Root Insurance Agency, LLC. I certify that I have reviewed the foregoing Complaint. The facts and statements set forth therein are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Name (sign)

Name (print) Robert Bateman

Date:

Sworn to and subscribed before me by online notarization this 2nd day of February, 2023.
This is a jurat certificate; an oath or affidavit was administered to the signer.

Notary Public
Christopher M. Blinn

My Commission Expires: 10/30/2025



CHRISTOPHER M. BLINN
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires:
October 30, 2025